



Commonwealth Fusion Center (CFC)
Massachusetts
fusion@pol.state.ma.us | 508.820.2233



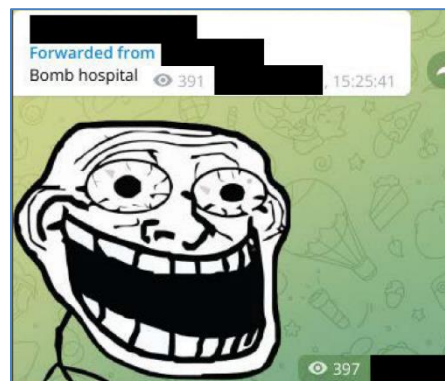
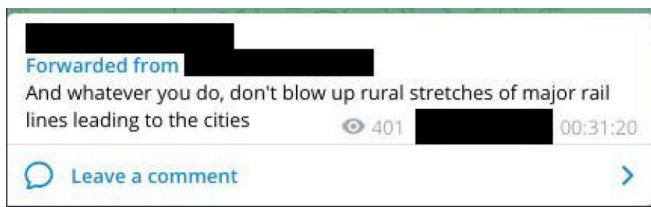
(U//FOUO) Commonwealth Fusion Center – Critical Infrastructure Alert
DVE Propaganda Discusses Targeting of Multiple Critical Infrastructure Sectors
15 November 2021

(U//FOUO) Overview

(U//FOUO) Statements posted by a racially/ethnically motivated violent extremist-white supremacist (RMVE-WS), encouraged the use of homemade explosives to target law enforcement, the healthcare sector, the transportation sector, politicians, and minorities. The source statements encouraged the use of pipe bombs and vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs) and made specific threats to power lines and rail lines.¹

(U//FOUO) One post included photographs of instructions to build explosives that appear to be from a technical manual from the Department of the Army. The photographs of the manual included instructions for fabricating explosives from readily available materials. A video was also posted of a train incident that occurred in Queens, New York on 19 September 2021 at the Steinway Street subway station, encouraging people to leave items on the tracks, presumably to cause damage.² The incident referenced involved a bicycle being rolled onto the train tracks. Two trains reportedly hit the bicycle, triggering the trains' emergency brakes and engulfing the platform in smoke. NYPD is investigating the incident.³

(U//FOUO) On 19 September 2021, the source re-posted statements about targeting politicians with VBIEDs, killing Jewish people, and bombing hospitals. The source also posted instructions on how to create an explosive device and suggested placing devices inside police vehicles.⁴



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(U//FOUO) The primary domestic violent extremist (DVE) threats to the homeland remain RMVEs and anti-government or anti-authority violent extremists (AGAAVEs), particularly militia violent extremists (MVEs). According to FBI Director Wray, RMVEs who advocate for the superiority of the white race were the primary source of lethal attacks in both 2018 and 2019, but militia violent extremists and anarchist violent extremists were responsible for three of the four lethal DVE attacks in 2020.⁵ RMVE often discuss targeting critical infrastructure, either as a means to hasten the collapse of society (accelerationism) or due to a belief in conspiracy theories.

(U//FOUO) Accelerationism is a fringe white supremacy extremism philosophy that promulgates hastening the collapse of society through chaos and political tension in order to build a racially pure state. RMVEs have published propaganda in the past encouraging attacks against critical infrastructure to include the electrical grid, telecommunications infrastructure, rail, highway, substations, and water treatment plants using any means available to cause chaos and accelerate the collapse of society.

(U//FOUO) RMVE-WS, AGAAVE, and other DVE threat actors have also been motivated by conspiracy theories. DHS assesses that DVE, RMVE-WS, and AGAAVE actors motivated by pandemic and vaccine-related conspiracy theories may plot against healthcare facilities, healthcare personnel, and public officials in response to expanding and renewed pandemic mitigation measures. Throughout the pandemic, DVEs have incited or threatened violence against public officials and the healthcare sectors because some DVEs perceive pandemic mitigation measures as government overreach and view the healthcare sector as an extension of the government.⁶

(U//FOUO) Outlook

(U//FOUO) The Commonwealth Fusion Center, Commonwealth Critical Infrastructure Program, is providing this information for situational awareness purposes only. Please be on alert for suspicious activity concerning critical infrastructure. Please report any suspicious activity to your police department of jurisdiction and the Commonwealth Fusion Center at 508-820-2233.

This bulletin contains raw information that is being provided to our counterterrorism, law enforcement, public safety, and private sector security partners for intelligence purposes and awareness regarding tactics, techniques, and procedures used or suggested by violent extremists. The information provided in this document is derived from open sources, and unless specifically noted, originated from users whose affiliation and credibility is unknown. The CFC recognizes the duty to uphold the United States Constitution and the responsibility to protect persons lawfully engaged in their First Amendment rights.

¹ (U//FOUO) DHS Serial: OSIR-04001-0012-22, Date of Information 19 September 2021.

² Ibid.

³ “Video: Explosion on subway after bicycle tossed onto tracks in Queens,” ABC 7 NY, 21 September 2021.

⁴ (U//FOUO) DHS Serial: OSIR-04001-0012-22, DHS, Date of Information 19 September 2021.

⁵ “Statement before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee”, FBI, 21 September 2021.

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